

ANNUAL REPORT


ON THE

SOUTH HERTS (No. 1) SANITARY DISTRICT

MALCOLM GROSS,
M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Eng.), D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

1934.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT.

Medical Officer of Health :

MALCOLM GROSS, M.B., B.S., Lond. M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Eng.,
D.P.H.

(Also School Medical Officer for the Borough of Hemel Hempstead.
Asst. M.O.H. and Asst. School M.O. Herts County Council.)

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Sanitary Inspector :

S. S. RAWSON, M.S.I.A., Cert. R. San. Inst.
Certified Meat Inspector, R. San. Inst.

Asst. Sanitary Inspector :

E. G. SHERRATT, M.S.I.A., Cert. R. San. Inst., A.C.P.I.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Sanitary Inspector :

THOMAS H. LIGHBODY, Cert. R. San. Inst.
Testamur of the Inst. of M. and Cy. E., L.R.I.B.A.
(Also Surveyor to the District Council).

URBAN DISTRICT OF GT. BERKHAMSTED.

Sanitary Inspector :

JNO R. HADFIELD, Cert. R. San. Inst. A.M. Inst. C.E.
Testamur of the Inst. of M. and Cy. E.
(Also Surveyor to the District Council).

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Sanitary Inspector :

JESSE OAKES, M.S.I.A., Assoc. R. San. Inst., M.I.M. and Cy. E.
(Also Surveyor to the District Council).

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

Sanitary Inspector :

HERBERT NEWMAN HEDGES, M.R. San. Inst.
Testamur of the M.I.M. and Cy. E.
(Also Surveyor to the District Council).

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FOREWORD.

During 1934 there has been much activity in the Public Health Services of the District. Many problems have come before the Public Health Committees for their consideration, much detailed work has resulted and, while perhaps no spectacular accomplishment may be evident, it can be stated that the Service has undoubtedly contributed to the maintenance or betterment of the public health.

Health Statistics in our comparatively small population have a limited intrinsic value except on the occurrence of some notable untoward event such as has not been experienced this year. The Death Rate and Infantile Mortality Rate compare favourably with that of England and Wales as a whole ; that is to be expected.

Our Infantile Mortality is actually higher than that for last year.

		District.		England & Wales.
Death Rate	...	10·5	...	11·8
Infantile Mortality				
Rate	...	48·0	...	59·0

Rather more than a third of the total deaths are attributed to Heart Disease. The Cancer rate this year was 1·58 as compared with 1·37 in 1933 and 1·26 in 1932. Only 7 deaths from Influenza were recorded this year. There were 4 fatalities from motor accidents in the Districts and in addition 2 residents were killed outside the District.

Much work has been done in the supervision of milk, this of course with a view to the production of pure and clean milk. The large number of farms in the rural districts renders it difficult to inspect their milk production as often as could be desired. Some additional check is however kept on the milk from these districts by a frequent examination of the milk at retailers in the towns. Whenever a dirty milk sample is obtained from a retailer, enquiry is made as to the sources of the milk. The Sanitary Inspector of the District, in which the farms from which it comes are situated, is informed and special visits to those farms are made and any necessary action taken.

Although it can be said that generally there has been improvement in the degree of cleanliness in the production of milk I feel bound to state that I am thoroughly in favour of pasteurisation of milk. Pasteurisation requires a milk supply equally as clean as if it were not to be pasteurised, but in addition it ensures safety from disease-producing organisms which can be introduced into the milk, careful and clean though its production may be.

The 1933-4 drought threatened to produce serious conditions of water shortage in several areas of the Hemel Hempstead Rural District but energetic action by the Authority would appear to have effectually dispelled cause for alarm and to have prevented their occurrence.

Probably the most interesting occurrence in regard to infectious disease was the discovery of a case of Weil's Disease in a canal worker. This disease has rarely been diagnosed in this Country and this is the first recorded case in the District. Common in some parts of Western Europe and spread by rats, this was not the only case discovered in England during the year and it tends to make one wonder what is the likelihood of its incidence increasing in this Country; the question is really national but the fact that a large rat infested canal runs through this District gives it additional interest locally.

The number of cases of Diphtheria was not high; isolation, control of contacts and careful investigation probably assisted materially in preventing the spread of this disease on more than one occasion.

Scarlet Fever has again been prevalent. Although some cases have been severe—(there was one death)—many cases of Scarlet Fever are nowadays very mild. There can be little doubt that for a number of such mild cases no doctor is called in and no notification is obtained. The spread of the disease under such circumstances can be easily understood and is to be regretted since a mild case in one person can produce a severe case in another, perhaps resulting in complications which have a lifelong result.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

The Borough comprises	...	...	...	...	7,184 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population, 1934)	...	...	...	...	15,940
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1934) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	4,416
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£94,113
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£360

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	222	112	110	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 14.2
	Illegitimate	5	3	2	
Stillbirths	...	5	2	3	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ... 21.6
Deaths	...	147	72	75	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 9.2

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Other puerperal causes	Nil.	Nil.
Total	Nil.	Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	39.6
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	...	...	40.5
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	...	...	Nil.

Actual number of deaths under 1 year :

Legitimate	9.	Illegitimate	Nil.	Total	9.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	1.	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	Nil.		
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	1.			

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.—Of the 147 deaths 44 were attributable to Heart Disease, 7 to Cerebral Haemorrhage and 8 to other Circulatory Diseases; 24 were due to Cancer, 6 to Bronchitis, 5 to Pneumonia, 4 to Influenza, 3 to Respiratory Tuberculosis, 4 to other Tuberculous Disease, 1 to Diphtheria, 5 to Suicide and 5 to other violence, 3 of the latter being due to motor accidents.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.—Of the 9 Infant Deaths, 4 were due to Congenital Defects, 3 to Prematurity, 1 to Birth Injury and 1 to Tubercular Meningitis.

General Provision of Health Services.

HOSPITALS :

A. 1. FEVER.—Bennetts End Hospital. Medical Officer: Dr. G. Burnet.

This is provided by a Joint Hospital Board for the Borough and the Hemel Hempstead Rural District. Accommodation consists of two wards and a two-bedded observation block. There is a total accommodation of 22 beds. The accommodation of the administrative block provides for a Matron, eleven Nurses and four Maids. There is a laundry block and steam disinfecter.

The following cases were admitted during 1934 :

	Borough of H'Hempstead.	Rural District H'Hempstead.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ...	90	11	1
Diphtheria ...	23	5	1
Erysipelas ...	3	2	—
Paratyphoid B Fever	—	1	—

Dr. Burnet in his Annual Report to the Joint Hospital Committee states that as regards Scarlet Fever

“many of the cases were of a mild type and only about 50% required treatment by serum.”

As regards Diphtheria he says: “the infection was generally easily controlled; only in six of the admissions were very severe symptoms shown. I consider that the early admission to hospital of all suspicious cases is responsible for this; the fatal case was hopeless on admission on account of heart complications.”

2. SMALLPOX.—There is no hospital in this South Herts (No. 1) Sanitary District. Under a Scheme made by the County Council in pursuance of their powers under Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929, the County Council undertake to provide a hospital or hospitals with a total minimum accommodation of 32 beds, with facilities for extension, for persons suffering from Smallpox who are inhabitants of the County, the expenses incurred to be defrayed as expenses for general County purposes. The locality of the hospital or hospitals is not laid down.

B. 1. TUBERCULOSIS. — Local cases are treated in institutions provided by the Hertfordshire County Council.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

2. MATERNITY HOSPITALS.—In July, 1927, a Maternity Block was opened at the West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead. There is an accommodation of eleven beds.

3. CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.—The general accommodation of the West Herts Hospital.

4. GENERAL HOSPITALS.—The West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead.

110 beds.

Out-Patients' Department—Days and Times :

Medical and Dental—Mondays and Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m.

Ear, Nose, and Throat, Wednesdays at 1.30 p.m.

Ophthalmic (Eyes), Thursdays at Noon.

Orthopædic, 1st Monday in every month at 2 p.m.

X-ray, Massage and Electro-Medical Treatment, any Week-day (except Saturday) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., or by appointment.

In addition to the above :

Mr. Fredk. Roques, Specialist in Gynæcology, attends the 1st Friday in every month at 10 a.m.

Dr. Parry, Consultant Radiologist, attends every Friday at 2 p.m. but appointments must be made previously.

This is a voluntary hospital. In 1932 a Contributory Scheme was inaugurated. Every District served by the hospital has joined the Scheme which has proved a source of appreciable revenue to the hospital. The income limitation for the Scheme is £6 a week for married couples and children under 16 years of age.

5. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION. — Hempstead House. Medical Officer : Dr. E. W. Gilroy.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(A) For Infectious Cases, a motor ambulance is kept at Bennetts End Isolation Hospital.
(Telephone : Boxmoor 132).

(B) For Non-infectious and Accident Cases, a motor ambulance, towards the upkeep of which the Borough subscribes, is kept at the West Herts Hospital (Telephone : Boxmoor 612).

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.—Maternity and Child Welfare Centre—A Centre provided by the Herts County Council is held at Marlowes every Thursday, from 2 to 4 p.m. The doctor attends every week.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	...	50
No. of children under 1 year on the books	...	...	67
„ „ between 1 and 5 years on the books			155
No. of attendances of children	...	...	2121
Average weekly attendance of children	...	...	42
No. of expectant mothers on books	...	...	32
No. of consultations they made with Doctor	...		113

A Centre supplied through voluntary means is held at the Church Room, Apsley, on alternate Wednesdays, at 2.30 p.m. (closed in August.) The doctor attends at each Session.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	...	23
No. of children under 1 year on the books	...	...	88
„ „ between 1 and 5 years on the books			97
No. of attendances of children	...	...	579
Average attendance of children	...	...	25.1

SCHOOL CLINIC.—This is a Minor Ailment Clinic held daily at Marlowes by the School Nurse and attended weekly by the School Medical Officer to the Borough.

Number of children who have attended	...	...	641
Total number of attendances	...	...	1667
Average number of attendances per child	...	...	2.6

TUBERCULOSIS CENTRE.—This Clinic, under the Tuberculosis Scheme of the Herts County Council, is held at the West Herts Hospital, on Wednesdays, at 11 a.m.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE.—A notice of facilities available for treatment is inserted weekly in the "Hemel Hempstead Gazette," by the Herts County Council.

Application for particulars may be made to the County Medical Officer, County Medical Office, Hertford.

MIDWIVES.—There are four Midwives practicing in the Borough. These are not employed or subsidised by the Local Authority.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—General Nursing of sick persons in their homes is carried out by the above Midwives who are employed by the District Nursing Association. There is no provision made for the nursing of Infectious Disease in the home.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.—The Corporation of Hemel Hempstead is a separate Education Authority under the Education Acts. For particulars of the Service see the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.—The following is a list of General Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws relating to the Public Health in force in the Borough :

GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS :

1. Public Health (Amendment) Act, Pt. III, 1890, adopted Jan., 1899 ;
2. Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, adopted Jan., 1898 ;
3. Private Street (Works) Act, 1892, adopted April, 1899.
4. Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907. The following sections:
All sections in Parts 1, 2, 3 and 5, all sections in Part 4 except section 67.
Sections 79 and 81 in Part 7, sections 87 and 90 in Part 8.
All sections in Parts 9 and 10, adopted 1908.
5. Public Health Act, 1925, Parts 2 and 5 (the rest of the Act is compulsory), adopted 1926.

BYE-LAWS.

UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875 :

- (A) In respect of Nuisances arising from snow, dust, ashes and rubbish, and for the keeping of animals on any premises so as to be injurious to health, adopted 1902.
- (B) In respect of Common Lodging Houses, adopted 1902 ;
- (C) In respect of Slaughter Houses, adopted 1902, amended 1925 ;
- (D) In respect of New Streets and Buildings and alterations to Buildings, amended 1926 ;
- (E) In respect of Offensive Trades, adopted 1914.
- (F) In respect of Removal of House Refuse, adopted 1934.

UNDER HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1885 :

In respect of Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., adopted 1900.

UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH (Smoke Abatement) ACT, 1926 :

In respect of Smoke Abatement, adopted 1934.

LOCAL ACT.—Hemel Hempstead Corporation Water Act :

Regulations for Preventing the Waste of Water, 1934.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.—Clinic Material for examination is forwarded to a London laboratory with which arrangements have been made or to the County Laboratory at Hill End.

The following are examinations for which the Authority have taken responsibility during the year.

THROAT OR NOSE SWABS (mainly for determining the presence of Diphtheria organisms) ... 134.

BLOOD EXAMINATIONS (for the purpose of assisting in the diagnosis of Enteric Fever) ... 1.

MILK SAMPLES (for determining the presence of Tubercle Bacilli) ... 5

'DESIGNATED' MILK SAMPLES (for bacteriologically determining the degree of cleanliness) ... 7

HAIR SAMPLES (for the presence of Ringworm) ... 2.

SAMPLE (for determining the presence of Roundworm) ... 1.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—The town is well sewered, over 90% of the property being connected to the public sewer; recent erection of small property in the outlying portions of the Borough where a sewer is not available has led to an increase in the number of cesspools in use. This matter has been regarded seriously by the Authority and consideration is being given to sewer extensions. The question of remodelling the existing sewage works is still under consideration.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—The Rivers Bulbourne and Gade flow through the valley of the town and meet at the extreme south end. No pollution of these streams was discovered during the year.

SCAVENGING.—The main portion of the town is served by a motor freighter of modern type and fitted with automatic closing metal covers. Covered horse vans make auxiliary collections. All collections are weekly. All refuse is disposed of by means of the Bradford System of burial which appears to be completely satisfactory. Waste paper is collected separately, pressed and sold for the manufacture of pulp. Facilities are afforded for the collection of trade refuse at fixed prices but are not largely made use of.

WATER SUPPLY.—The water supply of the Borough is obtained from two bore holes 160 and 260 feet deep and situated practically in the centre of the town. The supply remained adequate in spite of the general water shortage the only restrictions found to be advisable being

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

on garden and private swimming bath supplies. Quarterly analysis shews the water to be of excellent purity. For domestic purposes the water is hard, the degree of hardness varying very little; temporary hardness is about 26 and permanent hardness about 2 per 100,000 parts.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1934.

Food Inspection.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS :

During the year seven samples have been obtained and examined bacteriologically for the degree of cleanliness; six samples proved to be satisfactory and the remaining sample was found to be unsatisfactory. These samples being of 'Designated' milk the Ministry of Health would receive a report on each sample examined. Later samples of milk from the herd of cows which provided the one unsatisfactory result were found to be satisfactory.

There were also 40 other samples taken to be examined for the presence of dirt by means of the pad test; these samples on the whole were satisfactory but when they were not up to standard the matter was taken up with both the retailer and the producer and more satisfactory results obtained.

There are on the registers :—

Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	25
Cowkeeper Retailers	...	...	...	...	13
Retailers only	...	...	...	...	7
Total					45

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

There are nine slaughter houses in the Borough, seven of which are registered and two licensed annually.

The mechanically operated instrument is still used for the purpose of slaughter and gives satisfaction in the prevention of cruelty to the animals when slaughtered and meets with the approval of the slaughtermen; there are 22 licensed slaughtermen in the Borough.

The following is the list of animals inspected at the time of slaughter during the year.

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	Visits.	Beasts.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	
First Quarter	188	98	40	353	462	
Second „	184	83	19	225	277	
Third „	158	79	16	279	240	
Fourth „	202	111	29	312	383	
	<u>732</u>	<u>371</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>1169</u>	<u>1362</u>	Total 3738

During the year the following meat has been destroyed the same being unfit or diseased ;—

One beast, 78 stones, Tuberculosis. One pig, 12 stone, Erysipelas.
Three plucks, Parasites. 12 Pigs heads, Tuberculosis. Beef,
316 lbs, decomposition. 316 lbs. of Liver, Flukes and abscesses.

Inspections.

HOUSES—Inspected in routine	...	...	...	...	230
Inspected on complaint	...	..	...	...	89
„ for special enquiry (in Insanitary Areas and Housing Census)	...	...	...	...	221
„ after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	110
Common Lodging Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	12
Visits to Courts, Alleys and Yards	...	...	...	...	171
„ to Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	145
„ to Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	19
„ to Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	732
„ to Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	110
„ to Markets	...	...	...	...	98
„ to Work places	...	...	...	...	3
„ to Premises where notices have been served	...	...	...	...	1627
„ Work in progress	...	...	...	...	344
Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	159
Caravans inspected	...	...	...	...	16
Samples of Milk taken for examination, Bacterio- logical 7 and Dirt	...	...	...	...	40
Interviews with Owners or Agents respecting work	...	...	...	...	116
Visits <i>re</i> Shops' Acts (evening visits)	...	...	...	...	52
Insanitary areas reported to the Ministry and confirmed	...	...	...	...	2
Drains tested with water 18 ; Smoke 1	...	...	...	...	19

MEAT INSPECTION—

Carcases inspected — Beasts 371, Sheep 1169,
Pigs 1362, Calves 104 ... Total 3006

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CLERICAL—Special Reports	15
Letters written	178
Statutory Notices issued	35
Informal „ „	...	...	...	...	212
Notifications <i>re</i> Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	254
Canal Boats inspected	...	...	...	...	52
Visits to Schools	...	...	...	...	12

HOUSES—DEFECTS REMEDIED :

Brickwork made good	...	...	...	21
Defective floors repaired	...	...	...	33
Cooking Stoves, Fire Grates and Coppers repaired	...	...	...	61
Roofs „	...	...	...	47
Stairs and Wood work repaired	...	...	...	97
Walls and Ceilings „	...	...	...	72
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	82
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	58
Guttering and rain water pipes repaired	...	...	...	39
Walls and ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	25
Yards repaired or paved	...	...	...	30
Dirty Houses cleansed	...	...	...	15
Water provided inside houses	...	...	...	31
Barns re-built	...	...	...	4

DRAINAGE :

W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	4
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	17
„ re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	22
New sinks provided	...	...	...	37
New baths „	...	...	...	2
Dustbins „	...	...	...	48
Waste pipes provided and fixed	...	...	...	9

VARIOUS :

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	2
Animals improperly kept removed	...	...	...	1
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	11
Common lodging houses cleansed	...	...	...	16
Bake houses cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	26
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	205
Pails closets emptied	...	...	...	450
Petroleum Stores visited	...	...	...	6
Various visits	...	...	...	390

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Housing.

Number of Houses erected during 1934 :—

(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	Nil
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	184

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	347
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	1578
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	Nil.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	271
(carry over from 1933)		
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	10
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	231

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	247
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—		
(a) By Owners (carry over from year 1933)	...	18
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	35
--	-----	----

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	46
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...					Nil.

C.—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	10
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	10

D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 : Nil.

E.—Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 : Nil.

F.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 ... Nil.

POISONS AND PHARMACY ACT, 1908 :

There are three shops licensed for the sale of poisonous insecticides and weed killer.

PETROLEUM ACT & REGULATIONS :

Number of licensed persons	...	...	...	46
Quantity Petroleum stored	...	...	...	34,112 galls.
Quantity Carbide of Calcium stored	...	...	...	636 lbs.

S. S. RAWSON, *Sanitary Inspector.*

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories—(including Factory laundries) ...	—	—	—
Workshops—(including Workshop laundries) ...	145	—	—
Workplaces—(other than out-worker's premises) ...	3	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	148	—	—

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

DEFECTS FOUND :

Particulars.	Number of Defects			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Prosecutions instituted
Want of Cleanliness ...	26	26	—	—
Other Nuisances ...	3	3	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	29	29	—	—

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES. Defects found—Nil.

HOUSING.

Much progress was made in 1934 in the five year programme for the demolition of houses unfit and incapable of being made fit for habitation. Indeed so well has the work proceeded that there is every prospect of the programme being completed in 1935.

Actually during 1934 eleven houses were demolished and two others were closed from human habitation ; these will be used as warehouses. Two other houses had been demolished late in 1933. Two small groups of houses one consisting of 10 and one of 13, have been included in two small Clearance Schemes both of which have been approved by the Ministry of Health. These houses will be demolished as soon as fresh accommodation is available for displaced tenants and this will also probably be assisted in 1935 by the erection of 16 additional subsidised council houses. Nine other condemned houses are in various stages of procedure necessary for the obtaining their demolition which should be complete in 1935. Last year eight families from condemned property were rehoused in Council houses.

The decision of the Authority in 1933 to build 50 more council houses at economic rents was followed up and, after considerable delay in obtaining suitable tenders these are now nearing completion and will further assist in housing some of the displaced tenants from condemned property. At the end of 1934 there was a file of application for council houses numbering about 200.

During the year an attempt was made to estimate the standard of living obtained in houses owned by the Authority and the degree to which tenants from poorer property had re-acted to their improved environment. Broadly speaking it was found that most tenants showed much pride in the care of their house and garden and practically no evidence was forthcoming to show that the property was at all roughly treated. Many tenants from recently demolished property have

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shown that the wretched conditions under which they had lived was entirely attributable to the unsanitary condition of the property and that given good accommodation they can make a healthy home. Nevertheless there was evidence in a minority of cases of decided inability to reap the benefits which should have accrued from removal from insanitary to sanitary and attractive quarters. Cases were found in which bedroom accommodation was being incorrectly used; other cases were found where the importance of proper ventilation was unrealised; there were cases of untidiness, lack of cleanliness and an evidence of lack of system in the upkeep of the home.

Although there are only a comparatively small number of these unsatisfactory families they deserve very serious consideration. They show that it is not always sufficient just to provide suitable accommodation to those who have previously been condemned to live under squalid conditions. In order to obtain the best value for the cost of their re-housing it is necessary to endeavour by tactful precept and advice to improve their methods of living. If this is neglected such families will not only derive small benefit from their removal but they may serve as centres from which a poor and insanitary standard of living will again spread.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE :

The following table gives details of Notified Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year :

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	90	90	Nil.
Diphtheria	...	...	...	24	23	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	10	3	Nil.
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1	...	Nil.

Analysis of Notified Cases under age groups.

Age Periods.				Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Pyrexia
Under 1 year
1 to 2	1
2 „ 3	9	1
3 „ 4	2
4 „ 5	8	2

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Age Periods.				Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
5	„	10	26	9
10	„	15	... ..	20	4	1	...
15	„	20	... ..	10	2	...	...
20	„	35	... ..	10	6	2	1
35	„	45	... ..	2	...	3	...
45	„	65	... ..	2	...	4	...
65 & upwards				...	...	...	...
Total cases Notified				90	24	10	1

SCARLET FEVER.—The prevalence of Scarlet Fever in 1933 was continued into 1934 when there were 90 cases. There were between 8 and 11 cases every month (only 6 in July) up to October when the incidence fell and in the last three months of the year there were only 6 cases. Of the 90 cases 36 occurred among children attending Borough Elementary Schools, Apsley Schools (19 cases) being the most heavily affected. The 90 cases produce a rate of 5·65 per 1000 population as compared with a rate of 3·76 for England and Wales. Many of the cases were extremely mild and difficult to diagnose. There can be no doubt that the disease is largely spread by mild unrecognised cases.

DIPHTHERIA.—During the year there were 24 cases of Diphtheria 13 of which occurred among children attending Borough Elementary Schools. All the cases except one occurred in the first eight months of the year, the greatest number in any ~~year~~ being 5. The disease therefore never became epidemic. The rate per 1000 population was 1·51 as compared with 1·70 for England and Wales.

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—There were outbreaks of Mumps, Whooping Cough and Chickenpox involving certain Borough Elementary Schools.

Much interest centred round a case of *Weils Disease* or *Spirochætosus Icterohaemorrhagica*. This disease is acquired from rats which may contaminate food, soil or water. Very rare in this country it is common in Holland where rats cause much infection of canals and adjoining swimming baths. The case occurring in Hemel Hempstead was in a canal worker and is fully recorded in the *Lancet*. Jan. 12th, 1935. p. 86, by Dr. John Wolstencroft, who discovered it. An endeavour

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

to catch rats in the locality, to prove their infectivity, was unsuccessful. Investigations did not produce any evidence of any other persons being infected and examination of the blood of a group of canal workers gave no indication that they had any protective qualities in their blood which might have been produced by previous unrecognised attacks. The case recovered. The occurrence of this case of *Weils Disease* served to emphasise the inadequacy of the present swimming bath at Boxmoor which contains practically unfiltered canal water, and it has probably served as a spur to the construction of a new swimming bath on hygienic lines in the near future.

Tuberculosis.

		New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
20—25	...	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—45	...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	...	—	1	1	—	1	1	1	—
55—65	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
65 & upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	7	8	3	1	1	2	4	0

HEALTH EDUCATION.—Pamphlets on the following subjects are made use of as the occasion arises :

Diphtheria, Scarlatina, Infectious Diseases, Cleanliness.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

The Rural District of Hemel Hempstead comprises an area of 19,994 acres and is made up by the parishes of Kings Langley, Flaunden, Bovingdon, Great Gaddesden, Flamstead and Markyate.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of re-	
sident population, 1934)	8,720.
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of	
1934), according to Rate Books ...	2,545.
Rateable Value	£52,817.
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£198.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	134	69	65	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ...
	Illegitimate	4	3	1	
Stillbirths	...	2	1	1	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ...
Deaths	...	90	35	55	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ...

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1	7'1
Other puerperal causes	1	7'1
Total	2	14'2

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

All infants per 1000 live births	50'1
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	52'2
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	Nil.

Actual number of deaths under 1 year :

Legitimate 7	Illegitimate Nil.	Total 7
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.	
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	Nil.	

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.—Of the 90 deaths, 36 were attributable to Heart Disease, 6 to Cerebral Hæmorrhage and 5 to other Circulatory

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Diseases ; 7 were due to Cancer, 5 to Nephritis, 4 to Pneumonia, 3 to Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System, 1 to Scarlet Fever, 1 to Encephalitis Lethargica, and 1 to Influenza. 3 deaths were due to violence, 2 of these occurring through motor accidents.

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.—Of the 7 Infant Deaths 3 were due to prematurity, 2 to birth injuries, 1 to an anaesthetic for harelip and 1 to pemphigus.

Provision of Health Services.

HOSPITALS.—See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report, page 9.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.— Ditto. page 10.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

CHIPPERFIELD AND DISTRICT WELFARE CENTRE.—This Infant Welfare Centre is held from 2.30 to 4.30 on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month while the Ante Natal Centre is held at 2.30 on the first Wednesday of the month. The Centres are held at the Chipperfield Institute. The doctor attends at each session.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	24
No. of children under 1 year on the books	...	34
No. of children between 1 & 5 years on the books		81
No. of attendances of children	... ..	959
Average attendances of children	... ..	40
No. of expectant mothers on the books	... ..	23
No. of consultations they have made with doctor...		48

KINGS LANGLEY WELFARE CENTRE.—This is a voluntary centre. It is held on the third Wednesday of each month from 2.30—4.30 p.m. The doctor attends at each session.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	12
No. of children under 1 year on the books	...	24
„ „ between 1 & 5 years on the books		72
No. of attendances of children	... ..	437
Average monthly attendance of children	... ..	36

SCHOOL CLINICS.—There are no School Clinics in the District except a Dental Clinic at Kings Langley. The Education Authority under the Education Acts is the County Council and children with defects attend the nearest appropriate clinic outside the District.

TUBERCULOSIS CENTRE.—See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report page 11.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE.—See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report page 11.

MIDWIVES. PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—There are six midwives who are employed by the Nursing Associations and who undertake Public Health Work and General Nursing in the home. There is one other private midwife.

There is no arrangement for nursing of Infectious Disease in the home.

Legislation in force.

The following is a list of General Adoptive Acts, Regulations and Bye-laws relating to the public health in the District :

GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS :

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890	...	adopted Feb., 1891
Public Health (Amendment) Act, Part 3		
(Rural sects.) 1890	... ..	„ Jan., 1923
Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907		
Part 2. Sects. 18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25,		
28, 29, 30, 31, 32 & 33.		
Part 3. Sects. 34-38, 43-46 & 49		„ Jan., 1913
Part 4. Sects. 52-67 inclusive.		
Part 3. Sect. 50	... ..	„ July, 1926
Public Health Act, 1925, Parts 2, 3 and 4 as		
far as capable by a Rural Authority	...	„ Jan., 1931

BYE-LAWS :

In respect of Common Lodging		
Houses	... ..	adopted 1879
In respect of New Streets and		
Buildings	... ..	adopted 1907, revised 1934
In respect of Slaughter Houses	...	adopted 1879 amended 1925

LABORATORY FACILITIES :

See Borough of Hemel Hempstead—page 13.

The following are examinations for which the Authority have taken responsibility during the year :

Throat or Nose Swabs (for determining the presence of		
Diphtheria organisms)	..	41.
Milk Samples (for degree of cleanliness)	...	1.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Water Analysis :

Public Supplies.		Private Supplies.	
Chemical	... 2	Chemical	... 1
Bacteriological	9	Bacteriological	4

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.—A piped supply is provided to Kings Langley, Chipperfield, Bovington and Flaunden by the Rickmansworth Water Company.

The drought, which occurred generally all over the Country, made itself felt at Flamstead, Markyate and Gaddesden. and active steps were taken to deal with signs of threatened water shortage.

Flamstead drew its supply from a deep well, an oil engine and pump distributing the water to scattered tanks. Owing to the drop in water level the well was sunk a further eleven feet. The public well at Trowley Bottom also had the pump overhauled and lowered.

Markyate was supplied from a well and boring of a total depth of 371 feet, the water being pumped by three throw pumps driven by oil engines. There is a storage reservoir of 50,000 gallons whence pressure is maintained throughout the village. Water is pumped to supply Beechwood House, the main giving a supply to farm and cottages on the way. The water in the well dropped throughout 1934 to an unprecedented low level until by the end of the year it was about 37'6 feet below the normal. This serious condition was anticipated and the Rural District Council in March proceeded to sink an additional new bore 12" in diameter to a depth of 335 feet; this was completed in July and a new pump with a capacity of 3,000 gallons per hour fitted. The whole work was completed by the end of the year and a good supply of water is obtained therefrom. It was never necessary to ration the water supply.

Great Gaddesden and Gaddesden Row depend on wells and rain water tanks. The water for Jockey End is obtained from a boring sunk to a depth of 300 feet, the water thus obtained being passed through a chlorinator.

For a few months the cartage of water became necessary at Chequers End. Meanwhile the public well there was sunk an additional 20 feet and the top gear for drawing water was overhauled.

At Great Gaddesden village a new 4" borehole 100 feet deep has been put down, with a hand pump for drawing the water.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—There has been no work necessary in regard to pollution.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—There have been no alterations or extensions during the year but at Markyate the provision of a new dosing tank at the Sewage Farm is under consideration.

SCAVENGING. — Schemes for the periodical emptying of earth closets and privies are in operation at Bovingdon, Bourne End, Chipperfield and Flamstead.

House refuse is collected weekly from Kings Langley & Bovingdon, fortnightly from Chipperfield, Flamstead and Markyate. The refuse from Bovingdon, Chipperfield and Kings Langley is taken to a central site and disposed of by means of the Bradford System. The method proves very satisfactory. The refuse from Markyate and Flamstead is buried in excavated pits formerly used for gravel digging.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—There are 63 of these premises in the District. 82 inspections have been made.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES. — There are 12 slaughter houses in the District, 69 visits were made. Three of the above-mentioned slaughter houses have not been in use during the year. 1 Slaughtermen's license has been granted under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

BAKE HOUSES.—There are 7 bake-houses in the District. 14 inspections have been made.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1934.

Inspections.—HOUSING :

Houses inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	63
Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	...	...				35
„ after infectious disease	...	...	...			32
„ on complaint	...	...	...	...		28
Visits after serving notice and to work in progress...					...	281

TRADE PREMISES :

Bake-houses	...	...	...	7	14
Laundries	...	...	...	2	2
Cowsheds	...	...	...	63	82
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	9	69

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

CANAL BOATS :

Boats inspected ... 5. Contraventions ... Nil.

New or Remedial Work.

HOUSES :

Premises disinfected	30
Rooms cleansed	63
Defective plaster repaired, walls & ceilings ...	31
Walls damp and defective remedied... ..	48
Roofs, guttering and spouting repaired ...	22
Windows repaired and renewed	49
Floors repaired and renewed	41
Stairs repaired	5
Doors repaired	30
Defective coppers, cooking stoves and fire-grates repaired or renewed	23
Chimney stacks repaired	1
Overcrowding abated	4
Receptacles for house refuse provided ...	8

DRAINAGE ETC :

Water closets & E.C 's repaired or converted	13
Drains unstopped	4
New Drains laid and tested with water (including New Buildings)	76
Cesspools emptied	5
Wells repaired	2
R.W. Tanks repaired	2
Samp'les of water taken for analysis ...	17
New Sinks & gulleys provided	8

The above statement does not include any visits or repairs carried out to the Council's property. During the year 1934, 100 rooms in the Council's Cottages were cleansed and redecorated.

Housing.

No. of houses erected during the year 1934 :—

(1) By the Local Authority	4
(2) By other bodies or persons	55

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	98
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	249

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	63
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	184
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	51

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of in formal action by the Local Authority or their officers	39
---	----

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.—

A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	31
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	29
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of Dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	Nil.

C.—Proceedings under sections 19 & 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928 :

Licenses issued : Petroleum 24 ; Carbide 8.

Quantity stored : Petroleum 56,189 galls ; Carbide 5½ cwts.

Fees collected from above : £22.

THOMAS H. LIGHBODY, *Sanitary Inspector.*

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories—(including Factory laundries)	3	—	—
Workshops (including Work- shop laundries) ...	56	—	—
Workplaces—(other than out- worker's premises) ...	—	—	—
	—	—	—
Total ...	59	—	—

DEFECTS FOUND ... Nil.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.—Defects found ... Nil.

Housing.

During the year 63 houses were inspected under the Housing Act of 1930. The majority of these were at Chipperfield. 4 Informal and 31 Formal Notices were served following on these inspections and, as a result, 33 houses were put into a fit state of repair.

In regard to new houses the following action was taken by the Local Authority :

The 4 new council houses at Markyate were completed ; these are of 3 bedroom type and let at economic rents of 10/6 inclusive. They have been occupied by families previously living under overcrowded conditions.

No unfit houses were demolished during this year.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

The following gives details of Notified Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year :—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	13	11	1
Diphtheria	6	5	Nil.
Paratyphoid B. Fever ...	1	1	Nil.
Erysipelas	3	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	1
Pneumonia	2	—	—
Pemphigus	1	—	1
Anterior poliomyelitis ...	1	—	Nil.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups.

Age Periods.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Paratyphoid 'B' Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Pemphigus.	Anterior Poliomyelitis.
Under 1 year	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
1 to 2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 „ 3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
3 „ 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 „ 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 „ 10	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 „ 15	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 „ 20	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 „ 35	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
35 „ 45	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
45 „ 65	1	...	1	...	1	2	...	...
65 & upwards	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Total cases notified	13	6	1	2	2	3	1	1

SCARLET FEVER.—In view of the general prevalence of Scarlet Fever this District escaped lightly. Only 5 of the cases were in children attending elementary schools in the district, 3 being at Kings Langley, 1 at Chipperfield and 1 at Bovington. Two cases were nursed at home, one being too ill to move and dying at home, the other only being discovered at a late desquamatory stage.

The 13 cases produce a case rate of 1·49 as compared with a rate of 3·76 for England and Wales.

DIPHTHERIA. —The 6 cases of Diphtheria all occurred in Adults, 2 at Bovington, 2 at Kings Langley, 1 at Chipperfield and one at Flamstead. One case was nursed at home and all recovered. The six cases produce a case rate of '69 per 1,000 population as compared with a rate of 1·7 for England and Wales.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

The Elementary Schools this year were remarkably free from Infectious Diseases. The only notable outbreaks were of Whooping Cough and Mumps at Kings Langley School and German Measles at Chipperfield School.

No Infectious Disease was recorded from Flamstead or Markyate Schools.

Tuberculosis.

		New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5—10	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—45	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	1	5	0	1	0	3	0	1

HEALTH EDUCATION.—Pamphlets on the following subjects are made use of as the occasion arises :

Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Infectious Diseases, Cleanliness.

URBAN DISTRICT OF GREAT BERKHAMSTED.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

The Urban District of Great Berkhamsted comprises an area of 1,208 acres.

Population (Registrar - General's estimate of resident population, 1934)	...	...	...	...	...	8,477
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1934) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	2,263
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£69,785
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£272

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	89	42	47	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 11.1
	Illegitimate	5	3	2	
Stillbirths	...	6	2	4	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ... 60.0
Deaths	...	87	36	51	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 10.3

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

		Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil.	Nil.
Other puerperal causes	...	Nil.	Nil.
Total	...	Nil.	Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	85.1
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	...	...	89.9
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	...	...	Nil.

Actual number of deaths under 1 year :

Legitimate	8.	Illegitimate	Nil.	Total	8.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil.	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil.	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	Nil.	

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.—Of the 87 deaths 34 were attributable to Heart Disease, 1 to Cerebral Haemorrhage and 12 to other Circulatory Disease; 13 were due to Cancer, 7 to Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System, 5 to Pneumonia and 1 death was due to Suicide.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.—Of the 8 Infant deaths, 4 were attributable to Congenital Defects, 1 to Birth Injury, 1 to Prematurity and 2 to Broncho-pneumonia.

Provision of Health Services.

HOSPITALS.

A 1. FEVER: ALDBURY ISOLATION HOSPITAL. See Berkhamsted Rural District Report, page 44

2. SMALLPOX. See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report page 9.

B 3 & 4. For other Hospital facilities see Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report, page 10.

5 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION. Nugent House, High Street, Berkhamsted; Medical Officer: Dr. J. W. Turner, (now closed. 1935).

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

A For Infectious Cases a motor ambulance is stationed at the Aldbury Hospital. (*Tel. Tring 2*).

B For Non-infectious cases and accidents the above ambulance is available (disinfection of the ambulance is carried out after the removal of any infectious case) and, in addition, a motor ambulance, towards which the Urban Council subscribes, is kept at the West Herts Hospital Hemel Hempstead. (*Tel. Boxmoor 612*).

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES:

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.—This Centre, provided by the County Council, is held at Annandale House, Berkhamsted, every Friday, at 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. The doctor attends fortnightly (2nd and 4th Friday). The Ante-Natal Centre is held every 2nd and 4th Thursday, 10.30 to 12.30.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	48
No. of children under 1 year on the books ...	51
„ between 1 & 5 years on books	162
No. of attendances of children	1932
Average weekly attendance of children ...	40'25
No. of expectant mothers on the books ...	50
No. of consultations they have made with the Doctor	181

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

SCHOOL CLINICS.—The Education Authority under the Education Acts is the County Council. There is no School Clinic in this District; children with defects can attend the appropriate County Clinic in adjacent districts.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE.—See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report page 11.

MIDWIVES—PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—There are 4 Midwives practising in the Urban District. They are employed by the Nursing Associations and undertake Public Health Work and General Home Nursing.

There is no provision for nursing of Infectious Disease in the home.

Legislation in force.

GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS :

The following is a list of General Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws relating to the Public Health in force in the District :

1.	Public Health (Amendment) Act	...	1890
2.	Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act	...	1890
3.	Public Health (Amendment) Act	...	1907
4.	Public Health Acts, parts 2 & 5	...	1925
(The rest of the Act is compulsory).			

BYE-LAWS :

1.	In respect of nuisances arising from snow, dust, ashes & rubbish	... ..	adopted 1900
2.	In respect of the cleansing of pavements & foot-ways and of the cleansing of earth - closets, ashpits and cesspools	... ..	„ 1900
3.	In respect of Common Lodging Houses	...	„ 1900
4.	In respect of Slaughter Houses adopted 1900, amended 1933		
5.	In respect of New Streets and Buildings and Alterations to Buildings	... ..	„ 1924
6.	In respect of Houses Let in Lodgings	... ..	„ 1932

LABORATORY FACILITIES.—See Borough of H'Hempstead, page 13.

The following are examinations for which the Authority have taken responsibility during the past year :

<i>Throat or Nose Swabs</i> (mainly for determining the presence of Diphtheria organisms)	15
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URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

<i>Water Analysis :</i>	Public supply—Chemical	1
	Bacteriological	1
	Private supply—Chemical	...	...	7
	Bacteriological	...	...	7
<i>Milk :</i>	“Designated Milk” samples for bacteriologically determining the degree of cleanliness			5
	Milk samples for determining the presence of Tubercle Bacilli (all negative)			22
	Biological Test for Tuberculosis (negative)			1

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.—A piped water supply is derived from the Great Berkhamstead Water Company. It is sufficient in quantity and recent chemical and bacteriological examination has shewn it to be of satisfactory purity. The water is hard in type, temporary hardness being 21·8 and permanent hardness being 2 per 100,000. There are few houses which do not receive their water supply from this source. Five houses in Billet Lane draw their supply from wells; these wells, except in the case of one house ran dry during the summer and arrangements have been put in hand for them to be connected to the main.

RIVERS AND STREAMS —The bed of the river Bulbourne was cleaned out as far down as Kings Road. The river has been dry down to this point during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The Town is well sewered; disposal works consist of septic tanks with percolating filters. The effluent is sampled by the Thames Conservancy Board and continues to be satisfactory. A few outlying properties have private disposal works usually consisting of septic tanks and land treatment.

SCAVENGING.—House refuse is removed in four horse dust carts of modern type and fitted with automatic-closing covers. Disposal is by the Bradford System of burial; this method has proved completely successful and, the present site being almost full, arrangements have been made to continue the process on the recently purchased 19 acre site adjacent to the sewage farm.

Facilities are afforded for the removal of trade refuse at fixed charges but this service has not been much in request.

SWIMMING BATH.—With the recent general popularisation of swimming baths there has come a more critical attitude as to their amenities and also as to their safety, particularly in regard to their

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

infectivity. The public swimming bath was made in 1922; it is 90ft. by 30ft., has cubicle accommodation and has always been filled by canal water with a sand filtered continuous flow, and chlorinated. During last Spring there were added two additional dressing rooms, one for boys and one for men. A paved sunbathing area, approximately 50 x 50 ft. was also included. At the end of the 1934 season a bore-hole was driven 80 ft. into the chalk adjacent to the bath and from this was obtained an ample supply of water of a purity sufficient for drinking purposes. In 1935 this source will completely supplant the canal water supply, affording a continuous flow of pure spring water. Chlorination will be continued in order to render innocuous any infection which may reach the water while in the bath. This chlorination in order to be most effective should be continuous.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS. -There are 8 milkshops in the District. Much of the milk retailed from these shops actually comes from producers situated in the surrounding rural districts. Careful supervision is exerted over the milk sold in the district and generally speaking it all attains a good standard of cleanliness. It is nevertheless my opinion that if all milk was pasteurised it would be much safer food. At present no pasteurised milk is obtainable locally.

FOODS OTHER THAN MILK.—The Slaughter Houses and Bakehouses and Fried Fish Shops are visited and foods exposed for sale in the weekly market are also inspected.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1934.

Inspections.

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts ...	...	...	113
„ „ „ Public Health Acts ...	...	...	131
Houses inspected for special enquiry ...	...	...	25
„ after infectious disease ...	...	...	52
„ on complaint ...	...	...	33
Visits after serving notices and visits to work in progress ...			815

COMMON LODGING HOUSES :

Number on Register ...	2.	Visits of Inspection ...	15
------------------------	----	--------------------------	----

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

TRADE PREMISES :

	Number.	Inspections.
Bakehouses	7	14
Cowsheds	3	12
Milkshops	8	24
Slaughter-houses	5	60
Markets	1	51
Ice Cream Shops	16	32
Fried Fish Shops... ..	4	4

New or Remedial Work.

HOUSES :

Premises disinfected	49
Rooms cleansed	189
Defective ceiling plaster repaired	66
Walls damp & defective remedied	78
Defective woodwork & floors repaired	127
Roofs, gutterings & spoutings repaired	82
Defective chimneys repaired	8
New food stores provided or existing ones improved	9
Ventilation improved	6
Defective coppers, cooking stoves & firegrates repaired or renewed	76
Dustbins (provided by owners)	50
Yards paved or repaired	50
Out-houses repaired	7
Various defects remedied	26
Water supply provided inside houses	24

DRAINAGE :

Water closets repaired	40
Water closets demolished & new provided	8
Flushing cisterns repaired	50
New drains laid	42
Drains & fittings repaired	53
„ unstopped	10
Drains tested with water (including new buildings)... ..	42
Cesspools emptied	7
Sinks & washing facilities provided	25

VARIOUS :

Bundles of bedding, clothing, &c., steam disinfected	166
---	-----

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Samples of water taken	...	...	...	16
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	5
Carcases inspected	...	...	...	300

MILK :

Samples of Milk examined for dirt	...	...	67
„ „ taken for Laboratory examinations	...	...	28

CLERICAL WORK :

Informal Notices	...	...	...	244
Formal Notices	...	...	...	57

Housing.

Number of New Houses erected by the Local Authority	...	Nil.
„ „ „ other bodies or persons	...	39

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses Inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	280
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	...					1120
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	...	113
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	...					243
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation						110

2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	61
---	-----	-----	-----	----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :*

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	23
(2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :						
(a) By owner	...	...	...	...		30
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owner						—

Petroleum (Consolidated) Act, 1928.

Licenses issued	...	...	...	...	18
Quantity of Petroleum stored			...	...	18,150 galls.

JNO. R. HADFIELD, *Sanitary Inspector.*

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

		Number of Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories—(including Factory laundries)	... ..	—	—	—
Workshops—(including Work-shop laundries)	...	18	—	—
Workplaces—(other than out-worker's premises)	...	—	—	—
		—	—	—
Total	...	18	—	—

DEFECTS FOUND : Nil.

OUT-WORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES ... Defects found Nil.

Housing.

Examination of the Sanitary Inspector's Report reveals the amount of work involved in obtaining the remedying of unfit houses. During the year repairs have been carried out in 132 houses and in 91 houses have been completed and the houses thus rendered fit. It has unfortunately been necessary to issue formal notices to repair in the case of 23 houses, owing to no action having been taken after the service of informal notices. Reference to the Sanitary Inspector's report will indicate the types of defect which have been remedied.

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

In regard to provision of further housing accommodation, a contract was let for the erection of 11 houses, 3 bedroom, non-parlour type, intended to house tenants who will be displaced on the demolition of unfit houses; demolition orders have been held over pending completion of these houses but it is anticipated that all condemned property will be demolished during 1935.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

The following table gives details of Notified Disease (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year :

Disease.			Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	35	34	Nil
Diphtheria	...	...	1	1	Nil
Pneumonia	...	...	2	—	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups.

Age Periods.			Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.
Under 1 Year	...	...	...	...	...
1 to 2	...	...	...	...	...
2 „ 3	...	...	2	...	...
3 „ 4	...	...	1	...	...
4 „ 5	...	...	1	...	...
5 „ 10	...	...	8	...	...
10 „ 15	...	...	9	...	...
15 „ 20	...	...	9	...	...
20 „ 35	...	...	1	1	...
35 „ 45	...	...	2	...	1
45 „ 65	...	...	2	...	1
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...
Total Cases Notified			35	1	2

SCARLET FEVER.—The prevalence of Scarlet Fever in 1933 was continued in 1934. Of the 35 cases only 9 occurred in children attending elementary schools, 10 were among adults and 10 among boys attending the Berkhamstead Grammar School. Of these latter 5 were resident and 5 day boys. The greatest number (5) occurred here just

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

before Easter and were all connected with one house ; after this there was a long interval and 4 other cases occurred during later months of the year. The 35 cases produce a case rate of 4·13 as compared with 3·76 for England and Wales.

Tuberculosis.

		New Cases.				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
15—20	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
20—25	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
35—45	...	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45—55	...	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
55—65	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	2	4	0	1	4	3	0	0

HEALTH EDUCATION.—Pamphlets on Infectious Disease have been made use of as the occasion required.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

The Rural District of Berkhamsted is composed of the Parishes of Northchurch, Berkhamsted Rural, Aldbury, Wigginton, Tring Rural, Nettleden and Puttenham, which comprises an area of 18,383 acres.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1934)	...	...	...	...	...	5,328
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1934) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	1,610
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£35,806
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£136

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	61	28	33	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 11'6
	Illegitimate	1	0	1	
Stillbirths	...	2	2	0	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ... 31'25
Deaths	...	64	36	28	Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... 12'0

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Other puerperal causes	Nil.	Nil.
Total	Nil.	Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

All infants per 1000 live births	...	64'5
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	...	49'2
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	...	1,000

Actual number of deaths under 1 year:

Legitimate 3.	Illegitimate 1.	Total 4.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	Nil.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.—Of the 64 deaths 16 were attributable to Heart Disease, 1 to Cerebral Haemorrhage and 9 to other Circulatory Diseases; 13 were due to Cancer, 3 to Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System, 1 to other Tuberculous Disease, 1 to Diphtheria and 1 was due to Suicide.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.—Of the 4 Infant deaths all were due to Congenital Defects or Prematurity.

Provision of Health Services.

HOSPITALS.

A. 1. FEVER—ALDBURY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—Medical Officer Dr. C. E. O'Keefe.

This is provided by the Urban and Rural Districts of Berkhamsted through a Joint Hospital Committee, and is situated in the heart of the country, about three quarters of a mile from Aldbury.

Accommodation consists of 8 wards with a total of 26 beds. There is an Administrative Block with accommodation for the Staff consisting of a Matron, 3 Nurses and 2 Maids. There is a Laundry Block and a Formalin Disinfecter.

The following is a summary of the cases admitted to the hospital during the year :

			Berkhamstead Urban	Berkhamstead Rural
Diphtheria	...	...	1	4
Scarlet Fever	...	...	34	18

2. SMALLPOX.—See Report for Borough of Hemel Hempstead, page 9.

3 & 4.—For other Hospital Accommodation see Report for Borough of Hemel Hempstead, page 10.

5. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION.—See Berkhamsted Urban Report, page 34.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

A motor ambulance is stationed at the Aldbury Isolation Hospital (Tel. Tring 2) and is available for accidents and non-infectious cases as well as infectious cases. Disinfection of the ambulance is carried out after the removal of any infectious case.

CLINIC & TREATMENT CENTRES.

SCHOOL CLINICS.—The Education Authority under the Education Acts is the County Council. There is no School Clinic in the Rural District. Children with defects can attend the appropriate Clinic in adjacent areas.

TUBERCULOSIS CENTRE.—There is no Tuberculosis Centre in the District. The nearest Centre is that of Great Berkhamsted. See Berkhamsted U.D. report, page 35.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES :

ALDBURY.—This Centre is held on alternate Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m. The doctor attends monthly.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	22
„ children under 1 year on the books	...	3
„ „ between 1 & 5 years on the books		14
„ attendances of children	... ..	206
Average attendance of children	... ..	9'3
No. of expectant mothers on the books	... ..	2

WIGGINTON.—This Centre is held on the first Friday of every month from 2 to 4 p.m. The Doctor attends on each occasion.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	12
„ children under 1 year on the books	...	1
„ „ between 1 & 5 years on the books		20
„ attendances of children	... ..	184
Average attendance of children	... ..	15'3

POTTEN END.—This Centre is held on the second Wednesday in each month from 2.45 to 4 p.m.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	11
„ children under 1 year on the books	...	5
„ „ between 1 & 5 years on the books		33
„ attendances of children	... ..	199
Average monthly attendance of children...	...	20

LITTLE GADDESSEN.—This Centre is held on the first Wednesday in each month from 2.45 to 4 p.m.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	11
„ children under 1 year on the books	...	5
„ „ between 1 & 5 years on the books		16
„ attendances of children	... ..	114
Average monthly attendance of children...	...	10

The above are all voluntary centres.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE.—See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report. Page 11.

MIDWIVES : PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—There are 4 Midwives practising in the Rural District. They are employed by the Nursing Associations and undertake Public Health Work & General Home Nursing. They are distributed as follows :

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Aldbury, 1 ; Long Marston and Wilstone, 1 ; Potten End, 1 ; Little Gaddesden, 1.

There is no provision for nursing of Infectious Disease in the home.

Legislation in Force.

The following is a list of General Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws relating to the Public Health of the District.

GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS :

Public Health Act, 1875, Section 66. Adopted 1907.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890. Adopted February, 1891.

Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890.

Part 3 without prejudice to the Provision of the Act relating to investing of Rural Authorities with Urban Powers. Adopted February, 1891.

The above was reiterated as to Sections 16—19 inclusive, 23, 25, Sub-section 2 of 26, 28, 32, 33, 41, 47 & 48. Berkhamsted Rural and Northchurch Parishes only. December, 1895.

Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907. The following Sections—

Sections 25 & 50	July, 1928.
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Public Health Act, 1925. Parts 2, 3 & 4, as far as capable by a Rural Authority	March, 1928
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BYE-LAWS :

In respect of the Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, Removal of House Refuse and Cleansing of Earth Closets, &c.	Adopted Sept. 1885.
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In respect of Common Lodging Houses	...	„	„
„ Slaughter Houses	...	„	„
„ Nuisances arising from snow, dust, ashes, filth, or rubbish, and for the prevention of keeping of animals on any premises so as to be injurious to health	...	„	„

In respect of New Streets and Buildings	...	„	Jan., 1924.
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LABORATORY FACILITIES. — See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report, page 13.

The following are examinations for which the Authority have taken responsibility during the year :

Throat or Nose Swabs (for determining the presence of Diphtheria organisms)	48
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RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Biological Test for Virulence of Diphtheria organisms	...	1
<i>Blood Examinations</i> (for assisting in the diagnosis of Paratyphoid Fever	... ..	2
<i>Water Analysis</i> : Public Supply—Chemical	... ..	1
	Bacteriological...	1
Private Supply—For Parasites	... ..	1

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.—The Great Berkhamsted Water Company supplies a large portion of Northchurch and Berkhamsted Rural Parishes.

The Chiltern Hills Spring Water Company supplies Wigginton, Aldbury, Astrope, Puttenham, Long Marston and Wilstone.

Little Gaddesden is supplied by the Ashridge Water Company.

The supplies have been sufficient in quantity and chemical and bacteriological examination has shown them to be of satisfactory purity.

In spite of the general drought during the year only in the case of a few isolated dwellings has water shortage been seriously felt. Bungalows on Northchurch Common are still dependent for water on rain water tanks no action having yet been taken regarding obtaining water from the mains of the Berkhamsted Water Company.

About a third of the houses at Wilstone continue to draw their water supply from the dangerous village well—a well only twelve feet deep and giving evidence on chemical examination of the water of being polluted. I have made repeated recommendation for the last 7 years that owners of these houses should be compelled to connect them to the Chiltern Hills Water Company main which runs through the village. The little hamlet of Nettleden depends on well water except that water from the main is available at St. Margarets Farm.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—There has been no work necessary in regard to pollution.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—There have been no alterations or extensions during the year.

There is however plenty of scope for extensions in these matters. The following villages are quite without main sewerage; Aldbury, Potten End, Wigginton, Little Gaddesden, Puttenham, Nettleden and Bourne End.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

Northchurch.—A weekly collection is carried out in the village and Shootersway, and a fortnightly collection at Dudswell.

Bourne End.—There is a fortnightly collection of house refuse and a weekly collection of closet pails.

Potten End.—A fortnightly collection of house refuse is made.

House refuse from the above places is carted to the disposal works at Berkhamsted.

Aldbury —A two-monthly collection is made of tins, bottles etc. They are buried in a dell rented and controlled by the Council.

Wilstone.—A dump is provided for house refuse. The contents are collected and buried periodically.

Wiggington.—A monthly collection of tins, bottles, etc. is made.

Little Gaddesden.—A monthly collection of tins, bottles, etc. is made.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—There are 52 of these in the District. 97 Inspections have been made in the year. There are 3 producers of Grade A Milk and 2 of Certified Milk.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are 3 Slaughter Houses in the District. 52 Inspections have been made.

BAKEHOUSES.—17 Inspections have been made at the 5 Bakehouses in the District.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1934.

Inspections.

HOUSING :

Houses inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	96
„ under the Public Health Acts	...	67
„ for special enquiry	... ..	0
„ after infectious disease	... ..	32
„ on complaint	... ..	17
Visits after serving notice	... ..	} 356
„ to work in progress	... ..

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

TRADE PREMISES :

	Number.	Inspections.
Bakehouses ...	5	17
Laundries ...	3	12
Cowsheds ...	52	97
Slaughter houses	3	52

CANAL BOATS :

Boats inspected ... 27. Contraventions ... Nil.

New or Remedial Work.

HOUSES :

Premises disinfected ...	...	...	...	32
Rooms cleansed ...	...	...	...	53
Defective ceiling plaster repaired ...	...	...	...	27
Walls damp and defective remedied ...	...	...	...	31
Defective woodwork repaired ...	...	...	...	26
Roofs, guttering and spouting repaired	...	...	...	39
Defective chimneys repaired ...	...	...	...	21
Windows repaired ...	...	...	...	29
Ventilation improved ...	...	...	...	19
Defective coppers, cooking stoves and fire-grates repaired or renewed	...	...	...	25
Various defects remedied	...	...	...	28
Yards paved or repaired	...	...	...	23

DRAINAGE :

Water-closets repaired	...	...	...	24
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	31
New drains laid & tested with water (incl. new blgs.)	...	...	...	87
Drains repaired	...	...	...	23
„ unstopped	18
Cesspools emptied	25

MILK :

Samples of Milk examined for Dirt	19
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CLERICAL WORK :

Letters written	93
Formal Notices	15
Informal Notices	76

Housing.

Number of Houses erected during 1933 :

(1) By the Local Authority	...	...	17
(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	42

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year :*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	163
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose . . .	258
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	96
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose . . .	115
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	45

2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :*

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	22
---	----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year Nil.*

JESSE OAKES, *Sanitary Inspector.*

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories--(including Factory laundries)	23	5	—
Workshops--(including Workshop laundries)	21	—	—
Workplaces--(other than out-worker's premises)	7	—	—
Total	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 51	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> 5	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> —

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

DEFECTS FOUND :

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Prosecutions instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness ...	4	4	—	—
Other Nuisances ...	1	1	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Total ...	5	5	—	—

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES—Defects found—Nil.

Housing.

During the year a total of 96 houses were inspected throughout the District. 35 of these were found to be in poor condition, requiring extensive attention.

The following number of houses were rendered fit as the result of informal notices. Wiggington 6. Aldbury 12.

In addition to 16 houses found in 1933, 2 further houses were this year found to be unfit for habitation and incapable of being made fit at reasonable expense ; these were at Bourne End. One of the houses at Bourne End has been voluntarily closed from human habitation and reverted to use as a shed.

The second Bourne End house is to be made fit in spite of the expense.

Of the 16 houses found unfit in 1933 and included in the five years programme ; 4 at Long Marston have been made fit, 2 at Wilstone are under Demolition Orders, the other two are empty. The owner has undertaken to make them fit but has not yet done so. One house at Aldbury has been converted into a store, one is empty and a third, next door, is still occupied. Action in regard to 3 houses at Wiggington is deferred owing to their being occupied so long by old people whom it is considered better not to disturb for the present. In addition 13 houses at Bourne End were found to be unfit for habitation and incapable of being made fit at reasonable expense but action has been deferred owing to the area passing into the precincts of the Borough of Hemel Hempstead. This latter Authority will no doubt take necessary action regarding them during 1935.

The following Council Houses commenced in 1933 were completed in 1934 ; Long Marston 3, Little Gaddesden 10, Northchurch 4. All are subsidised and of non-parlour type and are occupied.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

The following table gives details of Notified Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year:

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ...	18	18	Nil
Diphtheria ...	4	4	1
Paratyphoid B Fever	1	1	Nil
Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	1	Nil
Erysipelas	3	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups.

Age Periods.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Paratyphoid B Fever	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Erysipelas	Pneumonia
Under 1 Year ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 to 2 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 „ 3 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 „ 4	1	...	...	...	...	...
4 „ 5 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1
5 „ 10	8	3	...	1	...	...
10 „ 15	2	...	...	...	...	...
15 „ 20	4	1	...	...	1	...
20 „ 35	2	...	1	...	2	...
35 „ 45	1	...	...	...	...	...
45 „ 65 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2
65 & upwards ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Cases Notified	18	4	1	1	3	3

SCARLET FEVER.—Of the 18 cases 7 occurred at Aldbury, 4 being children at the elementary school. 6 cases occurred at Potten End, 5 children being at the school. The 18 cases give a case rate of 3.38 as compared with 3.76 for England and Wales.

DIPHTHERIA.—There were only 4 cases of Diphtheria, 3 occurring at Wiggington. Prompt action here probably prevented a more extensive outbreak. The occurrence of 2 cases in school children led to investigations which revealed that a child was staying in the village

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

who had recently been in hospital in another district as a carrier. This child on being swabbed and on a biological test being made was found to be a virulent carrier. She went back to her own district, the Medical Officer of Health for that district being informed. Meanwhile one of the two cases at Wiggington died in Hospital.

Further enquiry by the Medical Officer of Health led to his discovery of another unrecognised case of Diphtheria in a child at home. This was isolated in hospital.

An examination of the throats of all children at the school was then made—some were swabbed and cases of sore throat excluded. No more cases occurred.

The 4 cases produce a case rate per 1,000 population of '75 as compared with 1'7 for England and Wales.

There was a heavy outbreak of Measles at Potten End in the early Spring. A house to house enquiry in the village and information obtained at the school indicated a sudden outbreak within 2 or 3 days. There was much local agitation for school closure and disinfection. The school was closed a few days before Easter in order to slightly prolong the holiday to cover the period when a second batch of cases might occur. There actually occurred only one case of Measles attending Potten End School after the holiday but local desire for school disinfection being continued this was carried out.

School closure for measles is generally discredited, very little effect on an epidemic being found. I regard school disinfection for measles as waste of time but consider that thorough cleansing and ventilation of the premises is certainly valuable.

Tuberculosis.

		New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
20—25	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1
35—45	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	1	3	2	1	2	1	0	1

Health Education.

Pamphlets on Infectious Disease have been made use of as the occasion required.

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

The Urban District of Tring has an area of 4,407 acres.

Population (Registrar - General's estimate of resident population, 1934)	...	...	...	...	...	4,488
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1934) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	1,351
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£26,524
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£102

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	60	42	18	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ...
	Illegitimate	2	1	1	13'8
Stillbirths	...	4	2	2	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ...
Deaths	...	63	28	35	60'6
					Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ...
					14'0

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live and still) Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Nil.
Other puerperal causes	Nil.	Nil.
Total	Nil.	Nil.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	Nil.
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	...	...	Nil.
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	...	...	Nil.

Actual number of deaths under 1 year :

Legitimate	Nil.	Illegitimate	Nil.	Total	Nil.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil.	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1.	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	Nil.	

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.—Of the 63 deaths 24 were attributable to Heart Disease and 6 to Cerebral Hæmorrhage; 11 were due to Cancer, 4 to Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System, 2 to Influenza, 1 to Suicide and 1 to other Violence.

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.—There were no deaths of Infants under 1 year.

Provision of Health Services.

HOSPITALS:

A. 1. FEVER—TRING ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—This hospital is situated about 1 mile outside Tring town and is maintained by the Tring Urban Council. It was presented by Lord Rothschild in 1899.

The following cases were admitted to the hospital during 1934:

Disease.	Tring Urban.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ...	17	Nil
Diphtheria ...	2	Nil
Erysipelas ...	1	Nil
Diphtheria Contacts	4	—

2 SMALLPOX.—See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report, page 9.

B. 1. TUBERCULOSIS.—Local cases are treated in institutions provided by the County Council.

2. MATERNITY.—(A) See West Herts Hospital, page 10.

(B) Tring Cottage Hospital* (see below).

3. CHILDREN.—The general accommodation of the West Herts Hospital* and the Royal Bucks Hospital.*

4. GENERAL.—(1) The West Herts Hospital.* For particulars see page 10.

(2) The Royal Bucks Hospital.*

(2) This is a Voluntary Hospital with a contributory Scheme towards which £183 0s. 0d. was collected from Tring in 1934.

45 in-patients and 55 out-patients came from Tring. Hospital treatment is obtained by letter or by certificate from the local Contributory Scheme Secretary.

Out-patient days and times:

Monday, 11.30 to 12—Medical and Surgical.

Tuesday, 9.30 Mr. Joel ,, ,,

Tuesday, 11.30 to 12.— ,, ,,

Wednesday, 11.30 to 12.—Medical and Surgical; Dental 10.30.

Wednesday, 2.0—Orthopædic (2nd and 4th).

Thursday, 9.30 alternate weeks, 2 to 3.—Throat, Nose & Ear, alternate weeks, (Dates from Secretary).

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

Friday, 11.30 to 12—Medical and Surgical.

Saturday, 9.30—Eyes, alternate weeks (Dates from Secretary).

X-ray by appointment only.

* Voluntary Hospital.

TRING COTTAGE HOSPITAL.—This Hospital (1 bed) is maintained by the Tring Nursing Association and admits emergency cases—Medical Surgical or Maternity. The District Nurse is resident and other Nurses are obtained as required.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION.—Nugent House, High Street, Berkhamsted.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES. — (A) For Infectious Cases a horse ambulance is kept at the Tring Isolation Hospital.

(B)—For Non-infectious and Accident cases, a motor ambulance is available from the Royal Bucks Hospital (Aylesbury 66) or from the West Herts Hospital (Boxmoor 612).

CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.—This Centre, provided by the Herts County Council, is held at Akeman Street on Friday at 2 p.m. The doctor attends on the 1st and 3rd Friday in the month.

No. of times the Centre was open during 1934	...	48
„ children under 1 year on the books	...	43
„ „ between 1 & 5 years on the books		107
„ attendances of children under 1 year	...)	1567
„ „ between 1 & 5 years	...)	
Average week'y attendance of children	... ..	33

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.—This Clinic is also held at Akeman Street and provided by the Herts County Council. It is open on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in the month, when a doctor attends.

No. of expectant mothers on the books	... ..	65
No. of consultations they have made with Doctor		169

SCHOOL CLINIC.—The Education Authority, under the Education Acts, is the County Council. There is no School Clinic in Tring. Children with defects can attend the appropriate County Clinics in adjacent areas.

TUBERCULOSIS CENTRE.—There is no Tuberculosis Centre in Tring. Cases attend the Berkhamsted Centre.

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

See Berkhamsted Urban District Report. Page 35.

TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASE.—See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report, page 11.

MIDWIVES —PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—(1) There is one midwife in Tring. She is employed by the County Council and also undertakes Public Health work and general nursing in the home --(Nurse Shore, 1, White Horse Terrace, Western Road).

(2) A Nurse is provided by the Tring Nursing Association (voluntary)--(Nurse Green, Nightingale Cottage, Tring).

(3) A Nurse is provided by Tring Park Estate for Tring Park tenants : (Nurse's Cottage, High Street, Tring).

There is no arrangement for nursing of Infectious Disease in the home.

Legislation in Force.

The following Bye-laws relating to the public health are in force in the District :

In respect of Slaughter Houses	...	...	Adopted 1882
„ Lodging Houses	...	...	„
„ Nuisances arising from snow, filth dust, ashes & rubbish, and for the prevention of keeping of animals on any premises so as to be injurious to health	...	...	„
In respect of the cleansing of footways	...	...	„
New Streets and Buildings & Alterations to Buildings	...	...	„ 1924

LABORATORY FACILITIES. — See Borough of Hemel Hempstead Report, page 13.

The following are examinations for which the Authority have taken responsibility during the past year :

<i>Throat or Nose Swabs</i> : (mainly for determining the presence of Diphtheria Organisms)	...	...	...	...	72
Biological Test for determining the virulence of Diph- theria Organisms	...	...	...	...	1
Blood Examinations for assisting in the diagnosis of Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	1

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

<i>Water Analysis :</i>	Public Supplies—Chemical	...	...	1
		Bacteriological	...	1
	Private Supplies—Chemical	...	...	1
		Bacteriological	...	4

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.—A constant and adequate supply from the Chiltern Hills Spring Water Company is available for the whole district except Bulbourne Hamlet. Recent chemical and bacteriological examination is satisfactory. The water is slightly hard, having a temporary hardness of 7·8 and a permanent hardness of 3·8 per 100,000 parts.

Some of the houses have deep wells and are not connected with the above source. The wells at Bulbourne are shallow.

In 1934 the Company's water was laid on in 47 houses owing to the failure of wells due to the dry weather spell 1933-34. Analysis of water was made in the case of 4 wells and proved satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—There has been no pollution discovered during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—There has been no alteration in type during the year.

SCAVENGING.—The whole town is cleared weekly of house refuse which is tipped at the Council's tip at Miswell.

Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—There are 18 of these in the District. 67 inspections have been made. The Council's Veterinary Inspector examines the cows for Tuberculosis and also examines the milk at every retailers twice a year from the point of view of cleanliness.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—45 inspections have been made at the 8 Slaughter Houses in the District.

BAKE-HOUSES.—There are 9 Bake-houses in the District. 25 inspections have been made.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1934.

Inspections.

HOUSING :

Houses inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	29
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	...	142
„ inspected after Infectious Disease	...	39
„ inspected on complaint	...	69
Visits after serving informal notice	...	62

TRADE PREMISES :

	Number.	Inspections.
Bake-houses	9	25
Cowsheds	18	67
Milk Shops	1	4
Slaughter-houses	8	45

CANAL BOATS :

Boats inspected	15.	Contraventions	Nil.
-----------------	-----	----------------	------

The Lavatory and Cloak Room accommodation at the Cinema and Public Halls have also been inspected.

New or Remedial Work.

HOUSES :

Premises disinfected	...	27
Rooms cleansed	...	21
Defective plaster repaired	...	12
Damp and defective walls remedied	...	13
Roofs, guttering and spouting repaired	...	25
Various defects remedied	...	11
Yards paved or repaired	...	17
Sanitary Dust-bins, supplied by Owners	...	22
Coppers repaired	...	9
Floors	...	6
Grates repaired	...	11
Ceilings repaired	...	6
Food store provided	...	13
Clothing and Bedding disinfected	...	27
Verminous house disinfected	...	1
Bedding destroyed	...	2

DRAINAGE :

Water closets repaired	...	5
New drains laid	...	27 sets.
Drains unstopped	...	7
Drains tested by water (including new buildings)	...	46 sets.
Defective gutters repaired	...	9

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

MILK :

Samples of milk were taken and examined for dirt by the Veterinary Inspector. Two samples were taken from each registered Cowkeeper.

CLERICAL WORK :

Informal Notices written	102
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Housing.

Number of houses erected during the year :

(a) By the Local Authority	Nil.
(b) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	16

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing Defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts...	91
--	-----	-----	-----	----

(b) No. of Inspections made for the purpose	161
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

(2) (a) Number of Dwelling Houses inspected and recorded (included under sub-head (1) above) under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	29
--	-----	-----	-----	----

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	61
--	-----	-----	-----	----

(3) Number of Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
---	-----	-----	-----	------

(4) Number of Houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	29
--	-----	-----	-----	----

2. Number of defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	25
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year	Nil
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928.

Petroleum Licenses Issued	18
---------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Quantity Stored	16,800 gallons
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H. N. HEDGES, *Sanitary Inspector.*

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

FABRICES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

	Number of Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Fabrics (including Fabrics laundries)	18	—	—
Workshops (including Work- shop laundries)	24	—	—
Workplaces (other than out- workers premises)	—	—	—
Total	42	—	—

DEFECTS FOUND. ... Nil.

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.—Defects found ... Nil.

Housing.

In continuance of the following up of defects found at the complete survey under the Housing Act, 1930 25 houses were rendered fit in 1934 as the result of service of informal notices.

Of the eight individual houses which were classified as incapable of being rendered fit at reasonable expense, and which were in two groups of four, the owners offered to convert them into 4, forming 2 groups of two and to this, providing the work was carried out to their satisfaction, the Council agreed. Seven of these houses have become vacant by tenants moving of their own accord.

The work of conversion into larger houses has been completed as regards two of the original eight houses and is proceeding with the remainder.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

The following table gives details of Notified Disease (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	17	17	Nil.
Diphtheria	2	2	Nil.
Paratyphoid B. Fever	1	1	Nil.
Erysipelas	6	1	Nil.
Pneumonia	3	—	1
Pemphigus	1	—	—

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

Analysis of Notified Cases under Age Groups.

Age Periods.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Paratyphoid B Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Pemphigus.
Under 1 Year	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 to 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 „ 3	1	...	...	...	...	...
3 „ 4	1	...	...	...	...	...
4 „ 5	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 „ 10	5	...	...	...	2	...
10 „ 15	5	...	...	1	...	1
15 „ 20	4	1	...	...	...	...
20 „ 35	1	...	1	2	...	...
35 „ 45	...	1	...	1	1	...
45 „ 65	...	...	...	2	...	...
65 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Cases Notified	17	2	1	6	3	1

SCARLET FEVER.—Tring participated in the general prevalence of Scarlet Fever but not extensively. There were altogether 17 cases of which 8 occurred in children attending Tring elementary schools although no more than three cases were in any particular school.

The 17 cases produce a case rate per 1000 population of 3·79 as compared with 3·76 for England and Wales. All cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths.

DIPHTHERIA.—There were only two cases of Diphtheria during the year; that there were not more was probably in large measure due to the active steps taken in dealing with contacts. One case occurred at a milk farm and the other in connection with a food shop. In both cases contacts were swabbed and found to harbour diphtheria organisms. They were isolated in hospital until found free from the infection. The ready co-operation of these persons was undoubtedly of great assistance in preventing the occurrence of further cases. Although repeated

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

laboratory examinations and hospital isolation entailed a certain expense this would be small as compared with the cost likely to be incurred in the case of a further spread of the disease.

PARATYPHOID FEVER (B).—The one case probably contracted the disease while away from the district. It was nursed at the Royal Bucks Hospital and recovered.

Tuberculosis.

		New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.		Pulm.		Non-Pulm.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
35—45	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 upwards		1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		2	2	0	0	3	1	0	0

HEALTH EDUCATION.—Pamphlets on the following subjects are made use of as the occasion arises :

Diphtheria, Scarlatina, Infectious Diseases, Cleanliness.

SEE OVERLEAF.

TABLE SHEWING BIRTH-RATES, DEATH RATES AND
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.

	Number of Births.	Birth-rate per 1000 population	Number of Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000 population.	Number of Infant Deaths.	Infantile Mortality per 1000 births.
England & Wales	—	14·8	—	11·8	—	59
118 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ...	—	14·7	—	11·8	—	63
132 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931) ...	—	15·0	—	11·3	—	53
London	—	13·2	—	11·9	—	67
Borough of Hemel Hempstead	227	14·2	147	9·2	9	39·6
Hemel Hempstead R.D. ...	138	15·8	90	10·3	7	50·1
Great Berkhamsted U.D. ...	94	11·1	87	10·3	8	85·1
Berkhamsted R.D.	62	11·6	64	12·0	4	64·5
Tring U.D.	62	13·8	63	14·0	Nil.	Nil.

